

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CA-01 MCT-01 EB-08 PRS-01
COME-00 SY-05 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01
USIA-06 PPT-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /068 W
-----030763 022011Z /50

R 020902Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5321
INFO AMCONSUL MEDAN
AMCONSUL SURABAYA
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 16211

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CDES, PINS, ID
SUBJECT: TWO AMERICAN CITIZENS SHOT AT ARUN LNG SITE

REF: MEDAN 4054, MEDAN 4057

1. ON DECEMBER 1, DCM WAS VISITED BY MR. PORTER E. THOMPSON, PRESIDENT OF BECHTEL INCORPORATED, AND MR. WILSON, REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF BCHTEL, WHO HAD JUST RETURNED TO JAKARTA FROM MEDAN. THEY CALLED TO DISCUSS THE RECENT KILLING OF ONE OF THEIR EMPLOYEES AND TO INFORM DCM OF THEIR ACTIONS TO DATE AND PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.

2. ACCORDING TO THE VISITORS, THE INCIDENT OCCURRED AS DESCRIBED IN REFTELS FROM MEDAN. HOWEVER, MR. WILSON STATED THAT WHILE HE HAD FIRST THOUGHT THE KILLINGS MIGHT BE A SIMPLE CASE OF REVENGE FOR THE KILLING OF AN ACEHENESE BOY BY A COMPANY CAR THE NIGHT BEFORE, HE HAD REVISED HIS OPINION IN THE LIGHT OF THE QUESTIONING OF THE SURVIVORS AND ESPECIALLY SINCE AN ACEHENESE EMPLOYEE OF BECHTEL'S
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HAD BEEN CAUGHT ON NOVEMBER 30 DISTRIBUTING A TRACT SIGNED BY THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT OF ACEH.

3. TEXT OF THIS TRACT FOLLOWS: QUOTE: ATTENTION: ALL AMERICAN, AUSTRALIAN AND JAVANESE EMPLOYEES OF MOBIL AND BECHTEL.

"IT IS WITH THE GREATEST OF REGRET THAT WE HAVE TO ADVISE YOU
AL GENTLEMEN THAT FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY TO PACK AND LEAVE THIS
COUNTRY IMMEDIATELY FOR THE TIME BEING FOR WE CANNOT GUAR-
ANTEE FOR THE SAFETY OF YOUR LIVES AND LIMBS.

"YOUR EMPLOYERS, MOBIL AND BECHTEL HAVE MADE THEMSELVES CO-
CONSPIRATORS WITH JAVANESE COLONIALIST THIEVES IN ROBBING
OUR UNRENEWABLE GAS RESOURCES FOR THEIR MUTUAL ADVANTAGE.

"WE FROM THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT OF ACEH SUMATRA,
THE PROTECTOR AND THE DEFENDER OF THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE
OF THIS COUNTRY IS DUTY BOUND TO STOP THIS HIGHWAY ROBBERY
OF STAGGERING PROPORTION PERPETRATED BY THE JAVANESE COLO-
NIALIST AIDED BY MOBIL AND BECHTEL. IF YOU STAY YOU ARE
LIABLE TO GET SHOT BY STRAY BULLETS AIMED AT JAVANESE
MERCENARIES WHO ARE ALL AROUND YOU IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES IN
EVERY HOOK AND NOOK OF THIS PLACE.

"THE JAVANESE MERCENARIES ARE GOING ALL OVER THIS COUNTRY
IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES MURDERING INNOCENT ACEHNESE PEOPLE.
THIS IS THE WAY THE JAVANESE COLONIALIST ARE TRYING TO
HIDE THE FACT OF THE EXISTENCE OF THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE
AND TO CAMOUFLAGE THEIR MILITARY MOVEMENT FROM FOREIGN
EYES THUS PRESENTING THE IMAGE OF FALSE STABILITY AND
LULLING YOU ALL TO SLEEP WITH THEM ON DEATH BEDS IN A
BURNING HOUSE.

"WE WILL WELCOME ALL OF YOU TO RETURN HERE AGAIN AFTER
THE JAVANESE COLONIALIST THIEVES HAVE LEFT. WE GENUINELY
REGRET TO INCONVENIENCE YOU BUT OUR ADVICE IS FOR YOUR
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BEST INTEREST. WE ACEHNESE ARE OURSELVES THE MOST IN-
CONVENIENCED OF ALL FOR IT IS OUR EMINENT DOMAIN THAT
IS BEING RAIDED BY JAVANESE, MOBIL AND BECHTEL.

"AS TO MOBIL AND BECHTEL, THEY CAN REMAIN IN THIS COUNTRY
ONLY UPON CONDITION THAT THEY DESIST FROM BEING MERE
OBEDIENT SERVANTS TO JAVANESE COLONIALIST THIEVES IN THE
HIGHWAY ROBBERY OF THE LAND OF ACEH AND UPON MOBIL AND
BECHTEL PRESENTATION OF THE FACT OF THEIR INNOCENCE TO
THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT OF ACEH SUMATRA AND TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE SOUTHERN STATE OF ACEH.

"NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT OF ACEH SUMATRA OCTOBER, 1977
UNQUOTE.

4. BECHTEL OFFICIALS STATED THAT THEY HAD MET WITH
SENIOR GOI OFFICIALS IN MEDAN AND WITH THE TOP LEADER-
SHIP OF PERTAMINA IN JAKARTA. THEY BELIEVE GOI IS MUCH
DISTURBED BY THIS INCIDENT AND WILL DO ITS BEST TO RE-
SOLVE IT BECAUSE OF ITS POSSIBLE EFFECT NOT ONLY ON THE
BECHTEL AND MOBIL EMPLOYEES INVOLVED IN THE NATURAL GAS
FIELDS BUT ON THE OVERALL SECURITY AND INVESTMENT PIC-
TURE IN INDONESIA. THEY HAD INFORMED PERTAMINA THAT NO
BECHTEL EMPLOYEE WILL WORK ON THE GAS PIPELINE UNLESS

ESCORTED BY ARMED SOLDIERS. THEY HAVE INSISTED THAT RAPID RPT RAPID ACTION MUST BE TAKEN FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL REASONS WITH RESPECT TO THEIR EMPLOYEES. THOMPSON AND WILSON ALSO INFORMED THE DCM THAT THEY HAVE TEMPORARILY HALTED THE ARRIVAL OF ANY FURTHER AMERICAN EMPLOYEES INTO THE MEDAN AREA, THAT THEY WILL NOT PERMIT THE RETURN FROM LEAVE OF ANY FAMILIES AND THAT, IF THEY DO NOT CONSIDER THE SITUATION TO BE IMPROVED SHORTLY, THEY WILL SERIOUSLY CONSIDER BEGINNING THE EVACUATION OF EXPATRAITE FAMILIES NOT ONLY FROM THE PIPELINE AREA BUT FROM THE LHOK SEUMAWA LNG REFINERY PROJECT AREA WHICH CONTAINS 240 FAMILIES. AS OF THIS MOMENT, NO EXPATRAITE IS PERMITTED TO GO BEYOND THE PROTECTED PERIMETERS OF HOME OR CAMP SITES.

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5. ACCORDING TO THOMPSON AND WILSON, THE PIPELINE WORK FROM THE GAS FIELDS TO THE REFINERY CAN BE FINISHED FAIRLY QUICKLY IF ADEQUATE SECURITY IS PROVIDED. THEIR MAIN CONCERN IS THE REFINERY AREA WITH ITS LARGE NUMBER OF EXPATRIATES AS WELL AS SEVERAL THOUSAND INDONESIANS. MR. THOMPSON DID NOT REQUEST ANY SPECIFIC ASSISTANCE FROM THE EMBASSY AT THIS TIME BUT HOPED THAT, AS APPROPRIATE, THE EMBASSY COULD URGE THE GOI TO TAKE RAPID ACTION. IT WAS AGREED THAT BECHTEL WOULD KEEP THE EMBASSY INFORMED OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS, WHILE THE EMBASSY WOULD, IN TURN, MAINTAIN CLOSE LIAISON WITH BECHTEL. APPRECIATION WAS EXPRESSED FOR THE CONSULATE'S ROLE IN MEDAN WHERE IT WAS ALSO FELT THAT NONTINUED CLOSE LIAISON WOULD BE NEDED AND USEFUL.

6. TO DATE, THERE HAS BEEN NO RPT NO PUBLICITY OF THIS AFFAIR. WE HAVE THEREFORE UNDERTAKEN QUIETLY TO INFORM UK, AUSTRALIAN, JAPANESE AND KOREAN AMBASSADORS, INASMUCH AS ALL HAVE CITIZENS WORKING FOR BECHTEL IN THIS AREA.

7. ON DECEMBER 2 CALLS UPON SENIOR FONOFF OFFICIALS BY AMBASSADOR, INCIDENT DISCUSSED AND AMBASSADOR MADE POINT OFNEED OF RAPID ACTION.
MASTERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEATHS
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977JAKART16211
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770448-0151
Format: TEL
From: JAKARTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197712101/aaaadhoz.tel
Line Count: 162
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d9d8cefb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SCS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MEDAN 4054, 77 MEDAN 4057
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 105887
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TWO AMERICAN CITIZENS SHOT AT ARUN LNG SITE
TAGS: CDES, PINS, ID, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d9d8cefb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009